



Coffee Break Training - Fire Prevention and Public Education

Focus on Fire Prevention

No. FM-2013-4 April 25, 2013

Learning Objective: The student shall have the opportunity to become familiar with a program that the Focus on Fire Prevention Foundation is offering through a Federal Emergency Management Agency Assistance to Firefighters Grant.

The folks at the Foundation have a vision to assist small volunteer and rural fire departments in obtaining a grant for free smoke alarms. Many fire departments have a significant challenge where fire prevention is concerned, and special support is needed to help them be successful. If you are a small suburban or rural fire department and are interested in applying for a grant, contact the Focus on Fire Prevention Foundation at info@focusonfireprevention.com.

The Foundation has been working on a grant for two years, and their hard work paid off on Oct. 6, 2012, with the first Focus on Fire Prevention group coming together in Orlando, Fla. Joe Bateman, president, and Jim Crawford, vice president and instructor for the program, spent numerous hours to make this conference a reality. Joe and Jim give a lot of credit to the committee members who provided them with a lot of knowledge and information in order to obtain this grant and offer the program.

The following eight departments were selected to receive the first grant, which required zero matching from the volunteer fire department: Trailer Estates Fire Department, Florida; Chilhowie Fire Department, Virginia; Wahkiakum Fire Department, Washington; Rapid Valley Fire Department, South Dakota; Centennial Fire Department, Minnesota; North Routt Fire Department, Colorado; Mt. Lemmon Fire Department, Arizona; and Winfield Fire Department, Maryland.

During the conference, the grant recipients made a plan on how they will incorporate this program into their communities and discussed it within the group. They also had the opportunity to visit "Where's the Fire?" by Liberty Mutual Insurance Company, a training to identify the 300 most common household causes of fires.

A monthly conference call also takes place so all grant recipients can discuss what is working and what isn't working and the progress made. The grant recipients returned to their station and did a train-the-trainer program, received their 10-year lithium battery smoke alarms, and are now out in their communities making a difference.



For archived downloads, go to:

www.usfa.fema.gov/nfa/coffee-break/